

SPECIFICATION

Page 4-5, last paragraph on page 4 and first paragraph on Page 5, please replace with the following:

The methods in accordance with the invention differ substantially from other processes available in the commodities and financial markets. Conventional clearinghouses operate through clearing members, and each clearing member operates with its own trading clients. Under this structure, clearing members must provide initial margins upon entering into trades, generally established as a fixed value or a percentage of the value of the trade based on the contract price. Trading firms also implement filters based on a per trade fixed risk calculation or a calculation based on the actual dollar volume of the trade, again, based on the contract price. The methods in accordance with the invention are directed to a credit filter process utilizing a pre-specified VAR calculation based on previously obtained price indices.